New power projects in Andhra Pradesh

694. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sanctioned new power projects in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the comparative details thereof, regarding transmission, distribution and power generation, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) With the coming into effect of the Electricity Act, 2003 the techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is no longer required for thermal generation projects. Concurrence of CEA is now required only for setting up of Hydro electric schemes whose estimated capital expenditure exceeds the notified limits.

During the last three years, one hydro electric project *i.e.* Lower Jurala (6X40 MW) in Andhra Pradesh submitted by M/s Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited was accorded concurrence of Central Electricity Authority on 24.7.2007. The project is scheduled to give benefits in XI Plan.

Electricity is a concurrent subject. Development of sub-transmission & distribution systems is primarily the responsibility of the State. However, the regional or Inter State Transmission Systems (which cater to the system strengthening and evacuation of power from generation projects) benefiting the States of the region where inter state transmission of power is involved, are implemented under the Central Sector by the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL). Andhra Pradesh will be beneficiary from the following transmission projects approved for the Southern Region (SR) during the last three and a half years:—

I. Completed Projects:

1. System Strengthening III of SR Grid
2. Upgradation of transfer capacity of Talcher-Kolar High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) bipole

II. Ongoing Projects:

3. System Strengthening-V in SR
4. Neyveli TS-II Expansion Transmission System
5. System Strengthening VI in SR
6. Kaiga 3 & 4 Evacuation System
7. Provision of additional spare converter transformer at Talcher and Kolar HVDC
8. Procurement of spare converter transformer for Vizag back to back HVDC
9. Transmission system associated with Kudankulam Atomic Power Plant
10. System Strengthening VII in SR

Under the Investment component of Accelarated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), Government of India had so far sanctioned 100 projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 1127.12 crores to Andhra Pradesh for strengthening and upgradation at sub-transmission and distribution level. Under the Incentive component, Rs. 265.11 crores have been released to Andhra Pradesh as incentive for actual cash loss reduction.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in Andhra Pradesh 17 Districts have been taken up for implementation under phase-I of the programme involving an outlay of Rs. 648.16 crore for intensive electrification of 21,623 already electrified villages and about 31.66 lakh rural households (including about 21.14 lakh BPL households). DISCOMS are implementing the scheme in the State and contracts have been awarded for all the projects.

Electrification of Villages in Rajasthan

695. SHRI GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during the last three years in Rajasthan and what remains to be done;

(b) whether implementation of this scheme is not satisfactory;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government is taking for 100 per cent implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Rajasthan Government has reported that electrification works have been carried out in 1,931 villages (1,361 un-electrified and 570 electrified villages) as on 16th November, 2007 under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) since he introduction of the scheme in April, 2005, as per the details given in Statement (*See* below).

The State has also reported that so far 2,44,778 rural household connections, including 1,34,780 BPL household connections have been released under RGGVY, details of which are given at Statement (*See* below). The State has so far availed Rs. 230.28 crore under RGGVY.

(d) The following steps have been taken by Government and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), as nodal agency, for effective and expeditious implementation of the programme:

* To augment the implementation capacities of State Electricity Boards/Power Utilities, the services of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) have been provided, which have demonstrated their capability in timely project execution with effective project management. Accordingly, REC has entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with CPSUs like National Thermal Power Corporation, Powergrid Corporation of India, National Hydro Electric Power Corporation, and Damodar Valley Corporation.

* For effective implementation of the project, REC has also developed a framework covering the guidelines for formulation of projects, procurement guidelines and bidding procedure for procurement of goods and services for projects to be executed on turn key basis, draft franchisee guidelines and updation of existing REC's